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US ARMY

USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News Notes



Trunk-Or-Treat brings families, community together for Halloween



Parents and children go from Halloween decked out trunk-to-trunk gathering yummy sweat treats during the 2005 Trunk-Or-Treat event held at USAG Schinnen's Emma Mine Complex. The event gives families a safe place to celebrate Halloween in a family - friendly environment.

By LaDonna Davis

Goblins, ghost, pumpkins, treats and... *trunks*? That's right; this isn't your mother's Halloween anymore. Now kids of all ages can celebrate in Halloween festivities safely by participating in the U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen's annual "Trunk -or-Treat" to be held Oct. 27, 5:30 p.m. at USAG Schinnen's Emma Mine Complex.

Keeping in the tradition of Halloween, costumes, decoration and candy galore will be the order of the day at the annual Schinnen event, but instead of children going from door-to-door, they'll go from car trunk- to- trunk.

"This is a unique event and experience for the members of the Tri-Border community to participate in during the Halloween holiday," said Steven Eclavea,

USAG Schinnen's morale, welfare and recreation coordinator. "Additionally, it's a great way for families to come out and have a nice time while building team spirit and family spirit all the while getting to know their community members."

The event is open to all U.S. and NATO ID cardholders and is expected to feature more than 30 Halloween-themed tables and car trunks located along a trick or treat path that winds through the Garrison.

The once-a-year event is designed to give families and young children a safe and fun place to celebrate Halloween while *trick ...err, trunk or treating*; and with prizes being awarded to the best Halloween-themed tables and car trunks, numerous children's games, a Haunted House and

free cosmic bowling for children in costume under the age of 12, how can the event not be a fun time for the entire family?

For those who want to participate in this year's Trunk -or- Treat event, reservations are now being taken for Halloween themed tables (tables and chairs provided) and parking spots for decorated car trunks. It is requested that participants provide 400 individually wrapped pieces of candy for trick or treater's. Trunks and tables will be judged for best decorated. To reserve a location along the Trunk or Treat trail, drop by Schinnen's Andre Bruls Fitness Center (DSN360-7561 or 046 443-7561) or call 046 443-7293 for full details.



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NEWS

Spouses to Teachers expands to Europe

By USAREUR PAO

Starting Oct. 1, military spouses in Europe interested in teaching can participate in the Department of Defense Spouses to Teachers program, which until now had been only available stateside.

The program's services include information on state-specific educational requirements, teaching credentials and scholarship options, along with a maximum reimbursement of \$600 for teacher certification examinations.

"Spouses serve too," said Pamela K. Smith, the Spouse Education, Careers and Relocation program manager for the office of the under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "It's our goal to help them build careers."

According to DoD research, teaching is one of the top-five career choices among military spouses. And because keeping military spouses employed is a good retention tool, Smith said, the overseas expansion of STT simply makes sense.

The program, directed by De-

fense Activity for Non-Traditional Educational Support, is open to spouses of all servicemembers, including reservists and guardsmen. Furthermore, there are no higher-education requirements to enter the program, and the program is commitment-free.

"You can change your mind and opt out any time," said Marti Readell, advisor for DANTES in Europe.

Interested spouses can contact the Spouses to Teachers network to be assigned a counselor designated for the state where the spouse is interested in teaching. For convenience, the interaction between spouses in Europe and their STT counselors will occur via the Internet and by phone.

And while counselors will help prospective teachers map out their educational career according to state and subject-based requirements, the program is not a job-placement service, Readell said. Plus counselors will not advise spouses which schools to attend.

"You have to be proactive," Readell stressed. "In the military, we're used to being told exactly where to go

and what to do. That's not the way this program works."

Spouses can find a list of several military cooperative teacher certification programs available through distance learning at www.dantes.doded.mil.

Though the program does not find jobs for spouses, there is a planned partnership between STT and the DoD Education Activity, through which DOE plans to provide support to spouses wherever it can, including possible student teaching opportunities, Smith said.

Additionally, Smith recommends two Websites – military.com/spouse and milspouse.org – that complement the STT program by serving as career centers where spouses can research career information, post resumes and make job searches.

Spouses interested in the STT program in Europe can log onto www.spousestoteachers.com and click on the "OCONUS" link. They also can contact the National Spouses to Teachers Office in Pensacola, Fla., by phone at 1-800-231-6282 or DSN 922-6282, or by e-mail at stt@voled.doded.mil.

Flu Vaccines to reach clinics soon: No shortages expected this year

By US Army Europe PAO

Army health clinics and hospitals in Europe will begin immunizing TRICARE beneficiaries against the flu beginning Oct. 15, according to Europe Regional Medical Command officials.

The first two weeks of the immunization program this year will focus on providing the vaccine to deployed or deploying Soldiers and civilians, as well as high-risk individuals. As more shipments arrive in theater, the program will expand to cover all TRICARE beneficiaries who receive care in Army medical treatment facilities in Europe. The ERM goal is to provide the vaccine to everyone eligible by the end of December.

This year the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta recommend

the vaccine for infants from six to 59 months of age, said Dr. (Lt. Col.) Robert A. Smith, ERM Pediatrics consultant.

"I strongly urge parents to seek the immunization for their children, since infants in that age group are more likely to develop severe health problems should they contract the flu," he said. "Also, young children are usually the carriers of influenza into families and by immunizing them, we help protect the entire household."

Immunizations are the first line of defense against the flu, said another ERM expert. According to Dr. (Lt. Col.) Bill Corr, ERM epidemiology consultant, immunizations are especially effective this time of year.

"As we approach the winter months," Corr noted, "people spend more time indoors with others. Those are conditions that make the spread of respiratory disease, such as the flu, more likely."

Besides getting the flu vaccine, Corr also urges everyone to take other precautions, such as washing hands frequently, covering up coughs and sneezes, and keeping up a healthy diet.

Military treatment facilities announce specifics of their programs as they occur. MTF commanders will work with unit commanders in their areas to schedule unit-level immunizations. Getting the flu vaccine is mandatory for all active-duty Soldiers.

NEWS



By USAG Schinnen Fire Prevention and Protection division

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on Oct. 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on Oct. 9, 1871.

According to popular legend, the fire broke out after a cow – belonging to Mrs. Catherine O’Leary – kicked over a lamp, setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire. Chances are you’ve heard some version of this story yourself; people have been blaming the Great Chicago Fire on the cow and Mrs O’Leary, for more than 130 years. But recent research by Chicago historian Robert Cromie has helped to debunk this version of events.

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn’t the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8th, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million

acres before it ended.

Historical accounts of the fire say the blaze began when several railroad workers clearing land for tracks unintentionally started a brush fire. Before long, the fast-moving flames were whipping through the area ‘like a tornado’, some survivors said. It was the small town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin that suffered the worst damage. Within an hour, the entire town had been destroyed.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration’s Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

Each year the National Fire Prevention Association dedicates a particular theme for Fire Prevention Week, this year the theme is focused on preventing cooking fires. “*Prevent Cooking Fires – Watch What You Heat*”

More fires start in the

kitchen than in any other part of the home. Why is the kitchen such a danger zone? Too often people fail to pay attention to what’s cooking, and the consequences can be far worse than burned food. Like any home fire, cooking fires spread quickly, leaving you just minutes to escape safely.

Frequently these fires occur due to distractions. The phone rings, you answer it, and the conversation lasts longer than it seems, watching TV or working on the computer and losing sight of what is going on in the kitchen. These are a few examples of distractions that can have serious consequences if something is cooking on the stove.

It has also been found that alcohol consumption has repeatedly had fatal consequences in relation to cooking fires. For example; an individual has been to a bar or social event and had a few drinks. The person returns home and feeling hungry puts something on the stove to heat up. In the meantime the individual sits down in a comfortable living room chair to watch some TV and subsequently falls asleep, NEVER to wake again. The spread of smoke from a small fire in the kitchen was fatal. **Do not leave cooking unattended.**

Schinnen Notes

Get in on the reading FUN!!

Parents! Bring your children ages zero to four-years-old to the weekly Read Aloud Story Time held every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Schinnen Bookmark.

Every week a different reader interacts with your children while reading out loud to them. Additionally your children will get the chance to learn new games, sing fun songs and meet new peers. It's also a great chance to interact with other parents.

It's never too early to start reading to a child. Don't miss this opportunity to introduce your child to the joys of reading!



Dressed as the Cat-In-The-Hat, volunteer reader, Jodie Daniel, reads out loud Dr. Seuss books to two young and enthused listeners during the weekly interactive Read-Aloud Story time at the USAG Schinnen Bookmark.

LEISURE

Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

Oct. 6-11: Large *Fall Carnival/Fair* at Vrijthof in the center of Maastricht (NL). Open: Friday, 7 p.m.-1 a.m.; Saturday, 1 p.m.-1 a.m.; other days, 1 p.m.-midnight.

Through Oct. 7: *Relief of Alkmaar festivities* in the center of Alkmaar (NL). Fest to celebrate the relief of the city from the Spanish occupying forces in the year 1573. The program includes a historical carnival/fair at Arcadepromenade, daily from 2 p.m.; a Chinese Lantern parade, 7:15-8:30 p.m. on Oct. 6; on Oct. 7 demonstrations Fire Department as well as Army, Navy and seals; parades; a Old Dutch Market; shows; games; fireworks and lots more.

Oct. 7-8: *Continental European Dog Show* at Expo Center, Avenue de l'Europe in

Charleroi, Belgium. At the show about 1500 dogs, representing the majority of the 330 breeds recognized by the international Cynological Federation, are presented to a jury of European specialists. Open both days 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Indoor Flea Market at Brabanthallen in Den Bosch (NL). Open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Indoor Flea Market at Groenordhallen in Leiden (NL). Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Entry: €3.50.

PC Discount Fair at MECC in Maastricht (NL). Information: 0031-(0)43-3838383.

Dollhouse, Doll and Miniature Fair at Evenementenhal in Rijswijk (NL). Open both days 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Entry: €4.50; children

(10 and younger) €3.50.

Oct. 12-15: *Jazz Maastricht*. A large jazz festival taking place in theaters and pubs in down town Maastricht (NL). Information: www.jazzmaastricht.com.

Oct. 29: *Antique Market* in the center of Valkenburg (NL), located across the VVV (Tourist) Office.

Through Nov. 19: *The Secret of the Celts* at Museum on Keulsepoort in Venlo (NL). The environment of the Celts in prehistory and the echo of their culture in today's world are themes of this large exhibition. Open: Tuesdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Mondays. Entry: €5.50; children €3.50.



AIS Booster Club

2006 CHILI COOK-OFF



Friday, 13 October 2006

AFNORTH International School
Football Field
5:00 pm – 7:30 pm

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY – OPEN TO ALL U.S. & NATO ID CARD HOLDERS



Powder Puff Football
Homecoming Bonfire--7:30 pm



People's Choice Awards
1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Trophies for Best Overall Chili

Lions' Lair Canteen will be selling Chili, Chili Dogs,
Frito Pie, Nachos with Chili & More



FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER FOR THE CHILI COOK-OFF,
CONTACT THE AIS BOOSTER CLUB at hvgross@hotmail.com

Registration Deadline: 6 October 2006

PROCEEDS BENEFIT AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS
Baseball*, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, Soccer,
Softball, Swimming*, Tennis, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling (*Letters only)

IF YOU'VE BEEN BRAGGING THAT YOUR CHILI IS "THE BEST,"
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO PROVE IT!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIONIC Lunch



Formerly known as the Power Luncheon, the next Believe It Or Not I Care Luncheon will be held on Oct. 2 at noon in the USAG Schinnen Bowling Center. Come for a free meal and a spiritually uplifting message.



Looking for a job?

Your local Army and Air Force Exchange Service is constantly seeking hard-working employees to join their team. For job openings, log on to the AAFES web page at <http://www.aafes.com> and click on employment to search for jobs in the European region.